



POUVOIR +

"Towards more inclusive solutions for the health and sexual rights of Highly Vulnerable Populations in Côte d'Ivoire"

Improve access to healthcare and ensure the full realization of SRHR for people living with HIV, in order to contribute to the achievement of national objectives in Côte d'Ivoire.

Context

Côte d'Ivoire is one of the West African countries most affected by HIV/AIDS, with a national prevalence rate of 2.4%. The epidemic is concentrated mainly among vulnerable populations: 12.6% among sex workers and 22.6% among transgender people. People living with HIV (PLHIV) face high levels of gender-based violence (GBV), which exacerbates their vulnerability to STIs, unwanted pregnancies, and unsafe abortions.

Based on the results of the POUVOIR project (2022–2025), **POUVOIR+** aims to:

- **expand** its activities to the districts of Treichville-Marcory, Koumassi, and Port-Bouët;
- **extend** its target audiences to all PLHIV who are sex workers: cis sex workers, men who have sex with men (MSM), transgender people, and women who use drugs;
- **strengthen** its response to critical needs: self-care for transgender people, cervical cancer screening, anal health, and advocacy for a favorable legal framework, in collaboration with CSOs.

KEY INFORMATION

 **Project duration:** 30 months (august 2025 – february 2028)

 **Beneficiaries:** Members of COVIE, Espace Confiance, Arc-en-Ciel+ and TS women, MSM, transgender sex workers, PUD sex workers

 **Source of funding:** The Initiative

 **Partners:** COVIE, Espace Confiance, Arc-en-Ciel+

 **Country:** Côte d'Ivoire (districts of Treichville-Marcory, Koumassi and Port-Bouët)

OBJECTIVES

To improve access to health care and the full expression of the SRHR of HVP and thus contribute to the achievement of national objectives in the fight against HIV and the promotion of SRHR, as well as to the reduction of gender inequalities in Côte d'Ivoire.

CSO interventions and commitments in favor of SRHR for and with VHP involved in sex work are strengthened and perpetuated to ensure more inclusive care.



MAINS ACTIVITIES

- Strengthening the organizational and technical capacities of partner CSOs
- Empowerment of PHVs to enable them to make choices for their own health
- Improving and adapting the SRH offer in health services and in the community
- Implementation of advocacy, research, capitalization and knowledge transfer activities

EXPECTED RESULTS

- R1:** The capacities of partner civil society organizations are strengthened, and their expertise in caring for highly vulnerable populations engaged in sex work is enhanced.
- R2:** The implementation of a community-based strategy adapted to the needs of PHVs practicing sex work improves access to information and to sexual and reproductive health interventions (in particular self-care and self-help), as well as to holistic management of gender-based violence.
- R3:** The supply of sexual and reproductive health and mental health services is improved in target areas, for inclusive care adapted to the specific needs of VHP involved in sex work.
- R4:** A social, political and normative environment more favorable to the sexual and reproductive health and rights of VHP is created in target areas and at national level.



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